



## Regional Class Research Vessel (RCRV)

FIC/Council - March 2013

- OSU selected as the Lead Institution for the RCRV project
- Funds awarded to Conceptual Design Review (CDR) only - **December 3-5, 2013 at NSF**
- Advancement to Preliminary Design Review (PDR) contingent upon successful CDR and availability of funding
- Three vessels currently planned
- Actual number of vessels based on projected science utilization and availability of funding



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FIC/Council - March 2013

- Operator selection to take place once number of vessels is known - **Solicitation in early CY 2017**
- Open design refresh process through RCRV Science Oversight Committee (SOC) and OSU reports to UNOLS
- Regional representation on the SOC during design refresh
- MREFC Funding Request for FY17 in **March 2015**
- First RCRV operational in **~CY 2020**





## **Regional Class Research Vessel (RCRV)**

NSF Determinations Review – February 2013

### **Project Off Ramps (From the Solicitation):**

- **NSF determination not to make an initial Awardee selection**
- Failure of the Awardee to satisfy CDR requirements and/or NSF disapproval of funding increment for PDR
- Funding increment for PDR not explicitly included in a budget request and therefore not appropriated by Congress
- Failure of the Awardee to satisfy PDR requirements and/or NSF disapproval for inclusion in future MREFC budget request
- Failure of the Awardee to satisfy FDR requirements, including selection of an acceptable shipyard for construction
- Insufficient Year 1 MREFC appropriations and/or NSF disapproval of the Awardee to obligate funds as part of FDR
- Insufficient out year appropriations to meet project objectives



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NSF Determinations Review – February 2013

## From the Solicitation:

- Number of hulls built based on:
  - Projected science utilization (as determined by NSF with UNOLS input) > linkages to Fleet “Right Sizing”
  - Availability of Funding
- OSU will operate the first RCRV if constructed:
  - Will operate in region based on science utilization/need
  - Chance of remote operation increases with fewer vessels
  - Operator selection for any follow-on hulls determined after the number of vessels to be built is known (2017)



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NSF Determinations Review – February 2013

## Critical NSF Milestones:

- CDR in **December 2013**
- PDR in **July/August 2014**
- MREFC Budget Request for FY17 MREFC \$ in **March 2015**  
(~2 year process)
- Begin construction of lead vessel in 2017
- First vessel operational in ~2020

*One month delay means a minimum of 1 year delay in construction/delivery.*



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NSF Determinations Review – February 2013

## NSF Design Refresh philosophy based on:

- Not starting from scratch > NAVSEA 155' design
- “Correcting” the problems:
  - Down-select panel concerns
  - FIC Inputs
  - NSF Determinations based on FIC inputs
  - Known successes and problems (*Sikuliaq, Hugh R. Sharp, Discovery, James Cook, AGOR-23 etc.*)
- Not re-visiting of the Regional Class SMR





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NSF Determinations Review – February 2013

### NSF Design Refresh philosophy based on:

- Focused input from the RCRV SOC on remaining issues
- Minimal design studies & spirals (hull)
- Material specification (like *Sikuliaq*)

***Approach critical to meeting project schedule and FY 17  
MREFC budget request***